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LETTER DATED 30 NOVEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

At 1230 hours on 28 November 1999 United States and British aircraft coming from bases in Turkish territory committed a fresh act of wanton aggression when they attacked residential areas in Ninawa Governorate in northern Iraq. They directly targeted the Zanabiq ("Lilies") elementary school in the Masarif residential neighbourhood of the city of Mosul, firing a high-speed anti-radiation missile (HARM). Ten civilians, including four children at the school, were seriously wounded. A number of dwellings in the area were also destroyed in the attack, as were two civilian motor vehicles. It should be noted that in this residential neighbourhood there are no military targets, whether fixed or mobile, and no anti-aircraft artillery batteries.

We condemn these recurring criminal acts of aggression against the territory and people of the Republic of Iraq, and we request you to intervene with the Security Council so that it may fully meet the responsibilities entrusted to it under the Charter of the United Nations by taking whatever measures are necessary to induce the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom to halt the acts of aggression in which they are engaging against Iraq.

In accordance with the principles of State responsibility, we affirm the legally established right of the Republic of Iraq to seek compensation for all the losses, in terms of human, material and moral damage, that have been sustained by Iraq and its people owing to acts of aggression that are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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